[13th August 1956

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The answer to both the clauses is in the affirmative.

In this connection the attention of the hon. Member is invited to his previous Legislative Assembly question No. 3277 which was answered on the floor of the House on 5th March 1956.

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN : Sir, as the need for clothing the Subdivisional Magistrates in the mufassal with appellate powers over the judgments of Second-class Magistrates is keenly felt by the Members of the Bar and the litigant public, is there any proposal to give that power to the Subdivisional Magistrates?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : For that purpose we will have to amend the Criminal Procedure Code. We have formulated a Bill for that purpose and we have sought the permission of the Government of India to proceed with that Bill.

SRI S. SWAYAMPRAKASAM : Sir, if I remember right, the Hon. the Minister for Law said the other day that they will bring in a measure for that purpose. When can we expect that measure?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : That is what I have stated. We have sought the permission of the Government of India to proceed with the Bill. As soon as permission is obtained, we will bring it before the House.

Changes in the rules for the Subordinate Service in the State

* 77 *Q.*—SRI S. RAMALINGAM (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to effect any change in the Service Rules of the various Subordinate Services, and if so, what are the salient principles on which changes are proposed?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The later part does not arise.

SRI K. C. GOPALAN UNNI : Is it a fact that refusal to accept pay is punishable under the Rules?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : I would like to have notice.

(Questions Nos. 78 and 79 were taken up together.)

Felling of teak and rosewood trees in Malabar district

* 78 *Q.*—SRI K. MADHAVAN NAMBIAR (on behalf of Sri V. R. Krishna Ayyar) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have issued any instructions to the Forest Department in 1955–56 to cut teakwood trees in the Malabar forests , aged 30;

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(b) the value of the trees so cut during that year; and

(c) the number of trees so cut and removed outside Malabar district?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: (a) No, Sir.

(b) & (c) Does not arise.

* 79 Q.—SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the estimated total number of teak and rosewood trees to be cut from the Reserved Forests in Malabar and removed to places in Coimbatore district under the recent orders of the Government and the approximate total value of the same?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: The Government have not issued any orders for the felling of teak and rosewood trees in the Reserved Forests in Malabar district and their removal to Coimbatore district.

SRI K. KUNHI MOHAMED SHAFEE: Sir, question No. 78 is about the orders issued in the year 1955–56. On the other hand, question No. 79, is about the recent circular issued by the Chief Conservator of Forests to the Forest officers of the Coimbatore Division. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether he has enquired into the allegations, which were published in the newspapers of Malabar as also some of the Madras newspapers? The then Minister in charge of Forests is stated to have given a statement to the papers to the effect that he had called for reports from the concerned forest divisions. May I know whether the Hon. Minister has anything to say on these facts?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Sir, may I with your permission, read question No. 79 put by the hon. Member: "Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the estimated total number of teak and rosewood trees to be cut from the Reserve Forests in Malabar and removed to places in Coimbatore district under the recent orders of the Government and the approximate total value of the same?". I have given the answer that the Government have not issued any orders. I am not fully aware of what all has appeared in the press in Malabar or anywhere else. I have given the information that the Government have not issued any orders and no trees have been cut.

SRI K. P. GOPALAN: Sir, may I know whether the Government have issued any circular to the Departmental officers not to cut trees in Malabar and if so, what is the reason for such a circular?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: Sir, in 1954 the Government discussed with the Chief Conservator of Forests about the methods to be adopted in the matter of rotation that has to be observed for thinning teakwood trees, which is a technical